

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2435

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 5225

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: COURIER SERVICE BETWEEN BRUSSELS AND VIENNA

VIENNA FOR USDEL MBFR

1. NATO INTERNATIONAL STAFF CONVENED A MEETING OF MBFR ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP ON OCTOBER 30 TO DISCUSS REQUEST FROM IS REP IN VIENNA, BASED ON AD HOC GROUP "DECISION," THAT A SPECIAL WEEKLY COURIER SERVICE BE ESTABLISHED BETWEEN NATO HEADQUARTERS AND AD HOC GROUP TO CARRY BOTH NATO AND NATIONAL DOCUMENTS BACK AND FORTH. AT ADMIN GROUP MEETING, IS SUGGESTED VARIOUS ELABORATE APPROACHES TO SETTING UP A SEPARATE SYSTEM.

2. U.S. REP QUESTIONED ADVISEABILITY OF ESTABLISHING COMPLICATED ADMINISTRATIVE MACHINERY FOR A BASICALLY SIMPLE PROBLEM. THERE WOULD NOT BE MANY NEW NATO DOCUMENTS OF INTEREST TO AD HOC GROUP

AND THESE COULD BE SENT THROUGH AN ALLIED DELEGATION IN BRUSSELS WHICH

ALREADY HAD REGULAR COURIER SERVICE TO VIENNA. IS STAFF IN VIENNA COULD THEN REPRODUCE ADEQUATE COPIES FOR AD HOC GROUP. AS FOR NATIONAL DOCUMENTS, U.S. REP ASSUMED THAT MOST ALLIES WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO SEND THEIR NATIONAL REPORTS VIA COURIER FROM ANOTHER NATION.  
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3. UK REP AGREED WITH LATTER POINT, BUT SAID THAT IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO HAVE COURIER CARRY THE VARIOUS NATIONAL PAPERS WHICH WERE CIRCULATED EITHER HERE AT NATO HEADQUARTERS OR IN THE AD HOC GROUP. HE WAS THINKING, FOR EXAMPLE, OF THE NUMEROUS

PAPERS WHICH USDEL MBFR HAD CIRCULATED IN THE AD HOC GROUP, BUT WHICH WERE NOT AVAILABLE AT NATO HEADQUARTERS, ALTHOUGH THEY WERE FREQUENTLY

REFERRED TO IN REPORTING FROM THE UK DEL IN VIENNA. DUTCH REP ASKED IF THE COUNTRIES WOULD AGREE TO CIRCULATE THEIR PAPERS BOTH IN VIENNA AND IN BRUSSELS, SO THAT EVERYONE WOULD BE INFORMED AND THAT IT WOULD NOT BE NECESSARY TO HAVE A COURIER CARRY SUCH PAPERS.

4. COMMENT: WE WOULD APPRECIATE COMMENTS BY USDEL MBFR ON DUTCH PROPOSAL, WE BELIEVE THAT IT HAS MERIT, MISSION WOULD PLAN TO CAREFULLY CAVEAT ANY USDEL MBFR PAPER WHICH WE WOULD CIRCULATE HERE AS STRICTLY FOR BACKGROUND INFORMATION OF ALLIED DELEGATIONS IN NATO HEADQUARTERS, UNLESS DEPARTMENT OR USDEL MBFR SPECIFICALLY DESIRED CONSULTATIONS ON A GIVEN PAPER IN NATO. IT WOULD ALSO BE HELPFUL FOR MISSION'S BACKGROUND INFORMATION TO HAVE COPIES OF ALL MAJOR PAPERS WHICH USDEL MBFR CIRCULATES EITHER IN AD HOC GROUP OR MBFR NEGOTIATIONS. END COMMENT.  
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